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Madras the report on the sand fly survey of the City conducted by the Research Health Officer, the statistics of Kala-Azar cases treated in the City medical institutions and the experimental studies on Kala-Azar carried out in Ramanathapuram district to help the Corporation evolve a scheme for the control of the disease."

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Has the Hon. Minister received any report as a result of the investigation of the Public Health Department about this disease which is spreading rapidly over the State. Since the scare days of 1942 it has migrated from endemic areas to non-endemic areas."

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the Government have received reports."

Reasons for the creation of cadres of municipal and district board health officers.

* 120 Q.—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state when the cadres of municipal and district board health officers were created and the reasons for the same?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House."

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN :—" How does the Hon. Minister reconcile the mortality figures with the census report? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not see the relevancy of this question."

Purchase of rice from Andhra State by the Madras Government.

* 121 Q.—Sri M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have purchased rice from Andhra State, and if so, the total quantity purchased up to 31st March 1954 and at what prices?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes Sir. The total quantity of rice purchased from the Andhra State in the current year up to 31st March 1954 is 27,863·8 tons or 7,58,456 maunds, 33½ seers.

Out of this, a quantity of 1,98,286 maunds 15-3/8 seers of 1 *sort rice* was purchased at Rs. 15–4–9 per maund, another quantity of 11,312 maunds, 7 seers of I sort *Nellore rice* was purchased at Rs. 15–12–0 per maund and the balance quantity of 5,48,858 maunds 11-1/8 seers of II sort rice was purchased at Rs. 14–9–3 per maund."

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 421 infra.

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SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have gained in this transaction?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" There is no question of gain in the transaction. The prices do not vary very largely."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the prices paid by this Government in respect of these purchases compare favourably with the Andhra local market rates?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice, Sir."

Produce of tobacco in this State during the years 1952–53 and 1953–54.

* 122 Q.—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the total produce of tobacco in this State during the years 1952–53 and 1953–54; and

(b) the chief tobacco producing areas in this State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The total produce of tobacco in this State during 1952–53 and 1953–54 is 19,800 and 28,100 tons respectively.

" (b) The chief tobacco producing areas are Coimbatore and Madurai districts and to a lesser extent Tiruchirappalli, Tanjore, South Arcot and South Kanara districts."

Adoption of Japanese method of cultivation in South Arcot district.

3-10 p.m. * 123 Q.—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Japanese method of cultivation has been adopted in South Arcot district;

(b) if so, how many acres have been cultivated under that method; and

(c) the difference in the quantity of produce between the Japanese method and the old methods?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) One thousand two hundred and two acres were cultivated under the modified Japanese method in the South Arcot district during the period from June 1953 to March 1954. It is proposed to bring 12,000 acres under this method of cultivation during the year 1954–55.

" (c) The average yield of paddy under the modified Japanese method is 4,421 lb. per acre as against 3,374 lb. per acre under the old method."